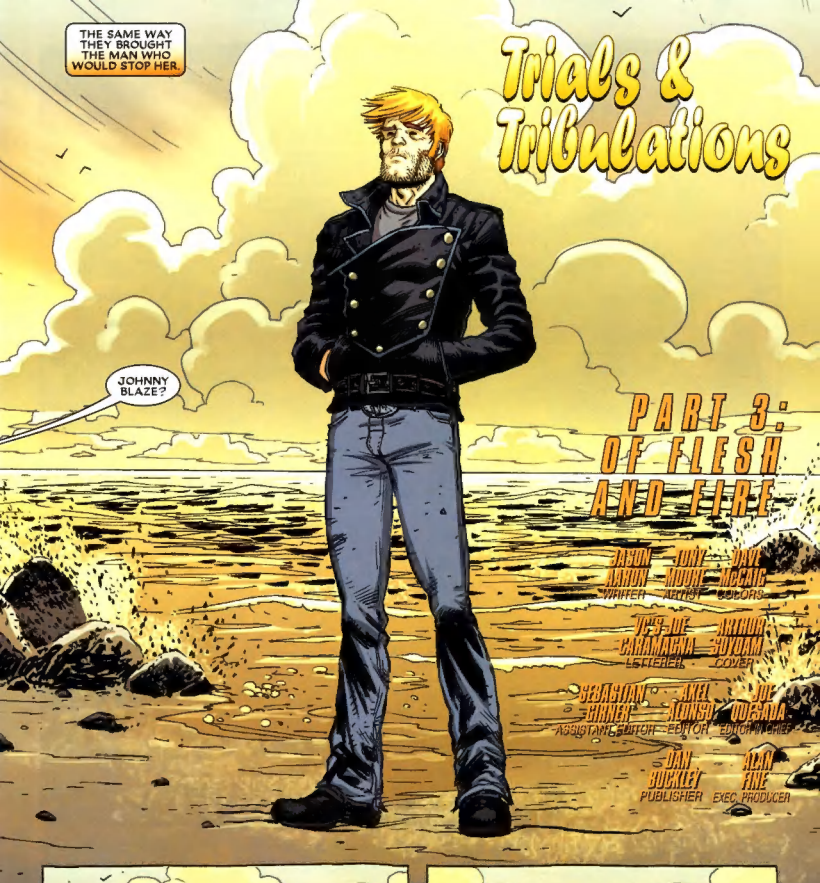

THE SAME WAY THEY BROUGHT THE MAN WHO WOULD STOP HER.
Trials & Tribulations
JOHNNY BLAZE?
PART 3: OF FLESH AND FIRE
JASON AARON WRITER
JOHN MOORE ARTIST
DAVE MCCAIG COLORS
VC's JOE CARAMAGNA LETTERER
ARTHUR SUYDAM COVER
SEBASTIAN GIRNER ASSISTANT EDITOR
AXEL ALONSO EDITOR
JOE QUESADA EDITOR-IN-CHIEF
DAN BUCKLEY PUBLISHER
ALAN FINE EXEC. PRODUCER

YOU FINALLY GOING IN TO PRAY TODAY, BROTHER BLAZE?

NOT LIKELY. LAST TIME I BOTHERED PRAYIN' FOR SOMETHING, I GOT SWINDLED OUTTA MY SOUL.
AH WELL, THAT'S BECAUSE YOU WERE PRAYING IN THE WRONG DIRECTION.

SORRY, OLD MAN, BUT I DON'T THINK THAT--
UUURRGGGH!!
UUUURRGGGGHHHH!!
GODS ABOVE...
DON'T. THERE'S NOTHING YOU CAN DO FOR HIM.
GET EVERYONE INSIDE. LOCK THE DOORS.
BUT--
TRUST ME, OLD MAN, THIS AIN'T NO SIGN FROM GOD.
THIS IS YOUR SIGN THAT GOD IS DEAD.

WHRRRGGGGHH!!!
VVRROOOOOMM!

WHACK

YOU STUPID MEAT-SACK. YOU WILL SUFFER FOR THAT.
THE MISTRESS WILL TAKE YOUR FLESH JUST LIKE THE OTHERS. BUT FIRST I WILL BREAK EACH OF YOUR PATHETIC LITTLE BONES, ONE AT A TIME.
FIGHT BACK IF YOU LIKE, BUT IT WILL DO YOU NO GOOD. THE MISTRESS HAS REMADE ME. SHE HAS TAKEN AWAY MY PAIN CENTERS.
GO AHEAD. HIT ME. I WON'T FEEL A THING.
KRAK

FIRST THING YOU LEARN IN A BAR FIGHT, PAL, IT DON'T MATTER HOW BIG A FELLA IS...
IF HE'S STANDING UP, THEN HE'S GOT *KNEES.*
NOW TELL ME WHAT THE HELL'S GOING ON AROUND HERE AND MAYBE I'LL--
OOP
VVRROOOOOOMM!

MAKE WAY! FLESH FOR THE MISTRESS, COMING THROUGH! SKIN FOR THE BENDING! FLESH FOR THE DEFILING!
VVRROOOOOOMM!
AH, WHAT HAVE WE HERE...?

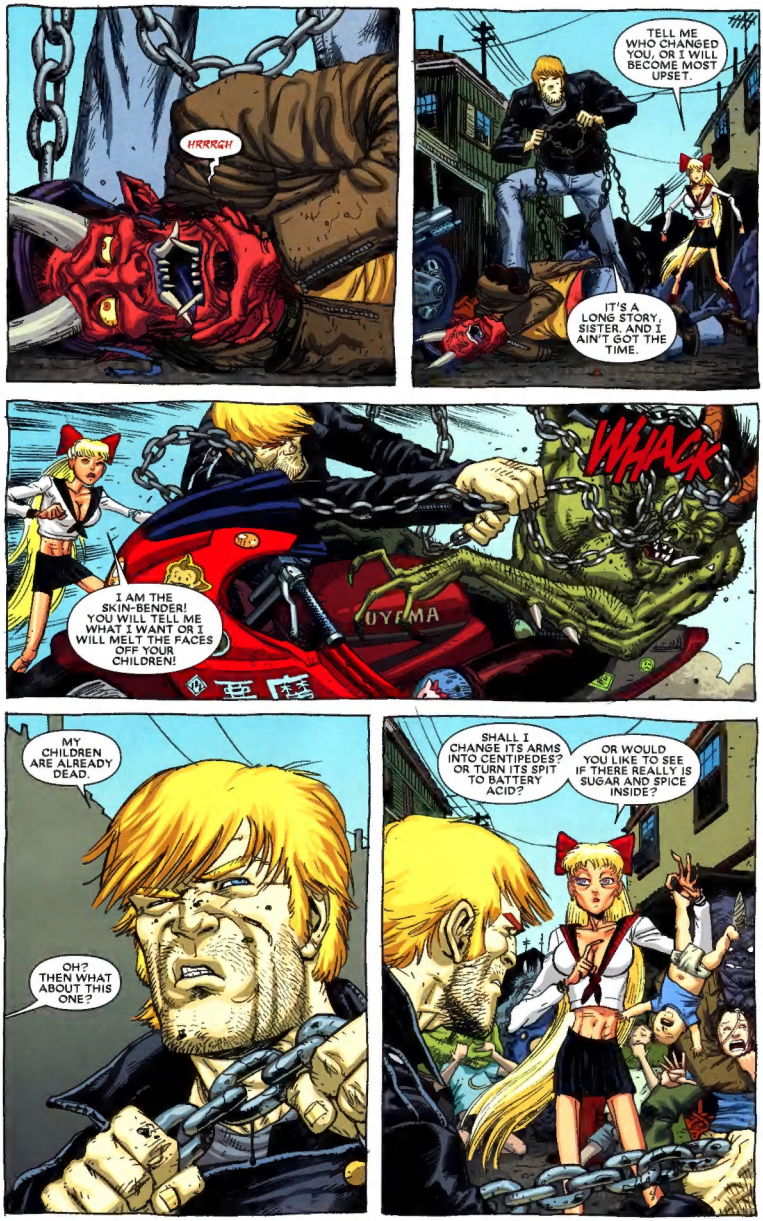
MY, WHAT LUSTROUS SKIN YOU HAVE.

I THINK I'LL PEEL IT OFF YOU AND WEAR IT AS PANTYHOSE.

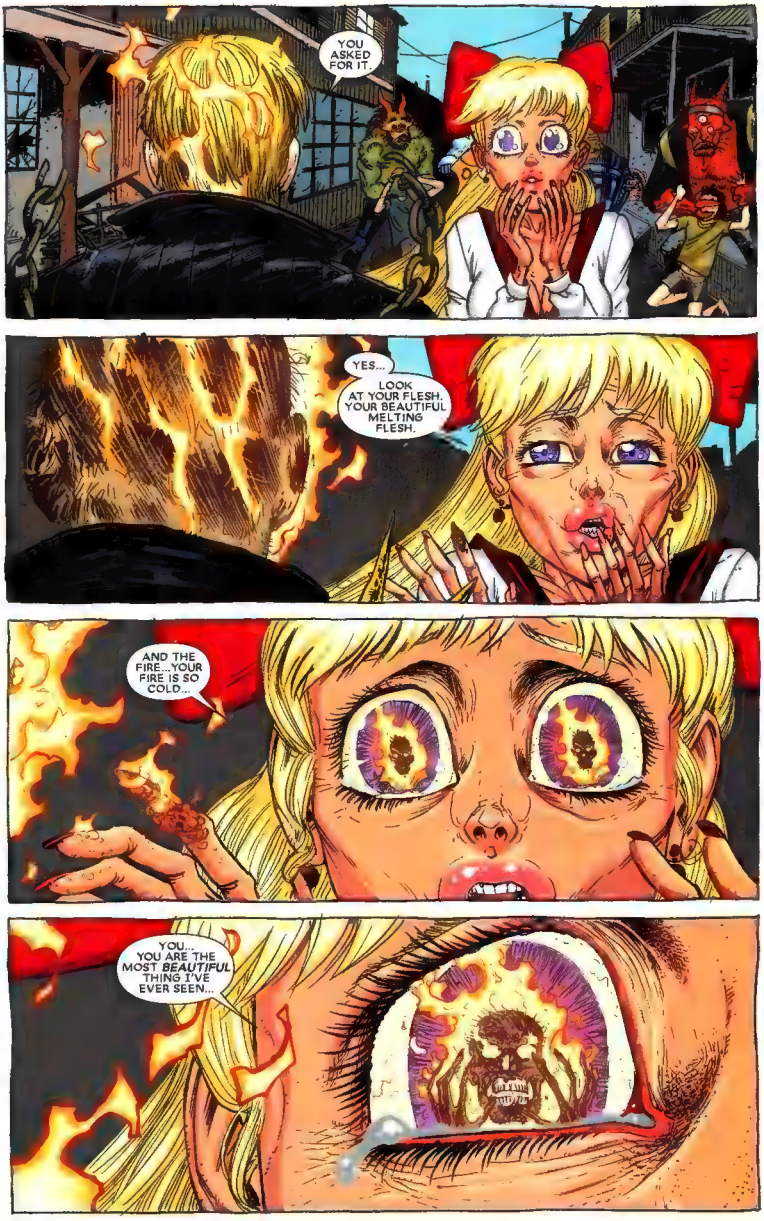
LIKE HELL YOU WI--
SHHH NOW. THIS'LL ONLY HURT MORE IF YOU SCREAM.

SSSSSSSS

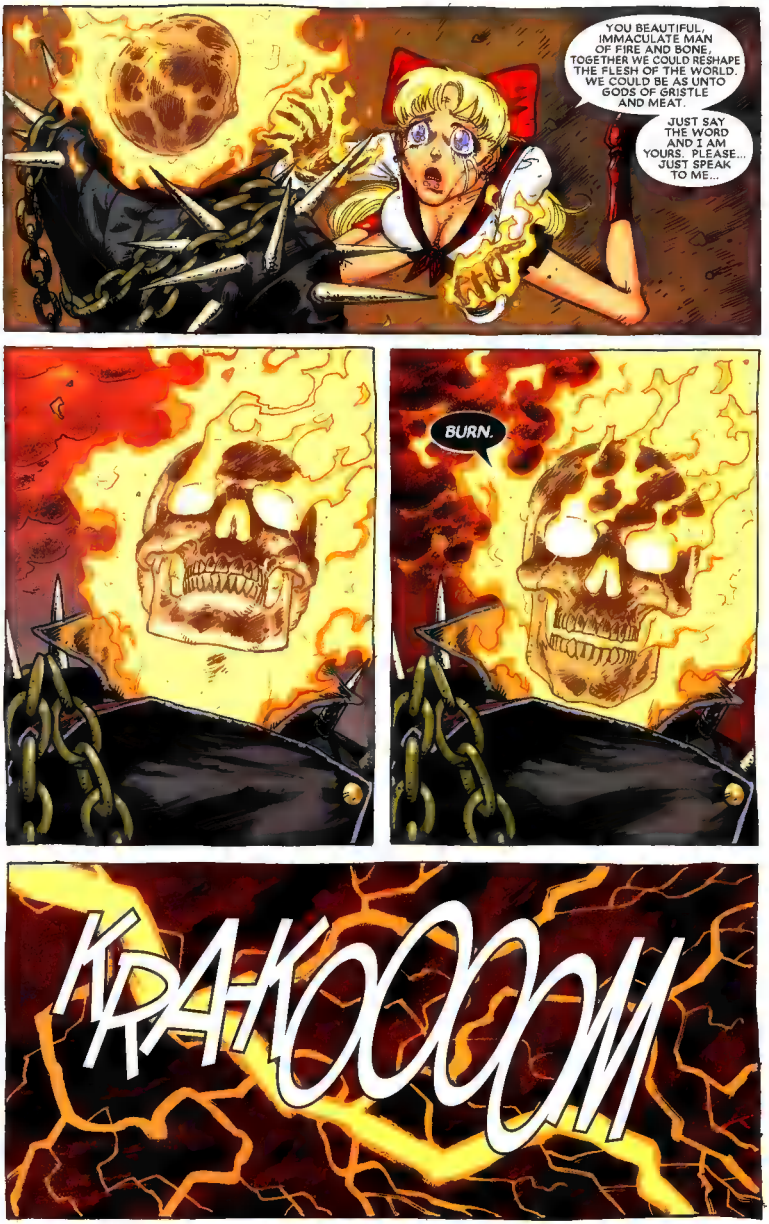
AAAAHHH!
WHAT WAS... THAT?
YOUR FLESH REJECTED ME. THAT'S NEVER HAPPENED BEFORE.
YOU HAVE FIRE INSIDE YOU. WHAT ARE YOU?
AMERICAN.
I AM THE SKIN-BENDER. ALL FLESH IS MINE TO SHAPE AT WILL.
BUT YOURS...YOURS I CANNOT BEND.
YOU HAVE ALREADY BEEN CHANGED. BUT BY WHO?
WHO PUT THE FIRE INSIDE YOU?
URK


HRRRGH
TELL ME WHO CHANGED YOU, OR I WILL BECOME MOST UPSET.
IT'S A LONG STORY, SISTER. AND I AIN'T GOT THE TIME.
WHACK
I AM THE SKIN-BENDER! YOU WILL TELL ME WHAT I WANT OR I WILL MELT THE FACES OFF YOUR CHILDREN!
MY CHILDREN ARE ALREADY DEAD.
OH? THEN WHAT ABOUT THIS ONE?
SHALL I CHANGE ITS ARMS INTO CENTIPEDES? OR TURN ITS SPIT TO BATTERY ACID?
OR WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE IF THERE REALLY IS SUGAR AND SPICE INSIDE?

YOU HURT ANYONE ELSE, AND I'LL--
YES, YES, I'M SURE YOU WILL.
JUST TELL ME WHO CHANGED YOU.
THE DEVIL. AN ANGEL. GOD. I DON'T KNOW ANY-MORE.
THEN SHOW ME. SHOW ME YOUR TRUE FACE.
CAN'T. IT'S GONE NOW.
YOU'VE BEEN HOLDING IT BACK. WHY WOULD YOU DO THAT?
BECAUSE IT'S A BEAST.
IT'S YOUR TRUE FACE. AND I WANT TO SEE IT.
I WANT TO SEE THE FIRE THAT BURNS INSIDE YOU. I WANT TO FEEL IT.
NO HOLDING BACK ANY-MORE.
JUST LET GO.
ALL RIGHT. ALL RIGHT. YOU CRAZY BITCH.


YOU ASKED FOR IT.
YES...
LOOK AT YOUR FLESH. YOUR BEAUTIFUL MELTING FLESH.
AND THE FIRE...YOUR FIRE IS SO COLD...
YOU... YOU ARE THE MOST *BEAUTIFUL* THING I'VE EVER SEEN...

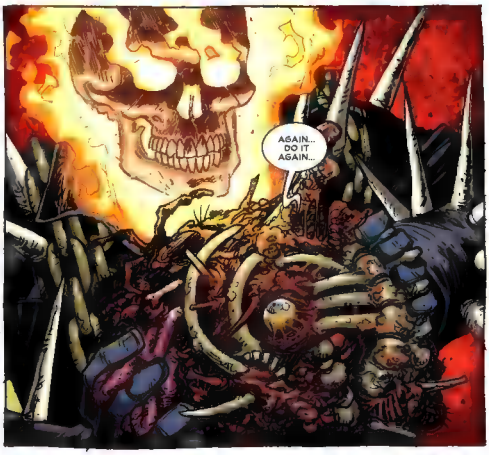
I...
I THINK I'M IN LOVE.


YOU BEAUTIFUL, IMMACULATE MAN OF FIRE AND BONE. TOGETHER WE COULD RESHAPE THE FLESH OF THE WORLD. WE COULD BE AS UNTO GODS OF GRISTLE AND MEAT.
JUST SAY THE WORD AND I AM YOURS. PLEASE... JUST SPEAK TO ME...
BURN.
KRAKOOOM

AND YEA, THOUGH I WALK THROUGH THE VALLEY OF THE SHADOW OF DEATH...
VVRROOOOOOM
VVRROOOOM
SSKREEEEEE

BLAZE!

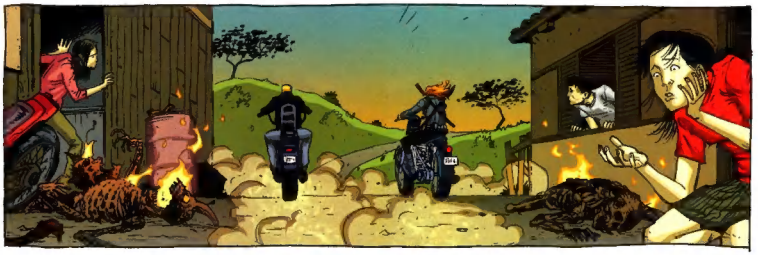
BLAZE, WE HAVE TO... OH MY GOD, WHAT *IS* THAT?


AGAIN... DO IT AGAIN...

YOU'RE NOT... YOU'RE NOT BLAZE, ARE YOU?
LICENTE MIHI MEUM AMICUM ADLOQUI?

ILLE TE AUDIRE POTEST
BLAZE, WE HAVE TO KEEP FIGHTING. ZADKIEL HASN'T WON. THERE'S STILL HOPE, I KNOW IT.
BLAZE, LISTEN TO ME. REMEMBER YOUR FAMILY. YOU HAVE TO REMEMBER YOUR FAMILY. WHERE IS YOUR FAMILY, BLAZE? WHERE ARE THEY?
HEAVEN.
THEY'RE IN HEAVEN...
LET'S GO.

VVRROOOOOOMMM!



HEH HEH. TOLD YOU, BROTHER BLAZE, DIDN'T I? KNEW YOUR SIGN WOULD COME.
NOW GO OUT THERE AND KICK SOME ASS.

AND SO WITH THE FLESH DEMON VANQUISHED AND THE PEOPLE RETURNED TO NORMAL, THE BURNING MAN RODE AWAY WITHOUT A WORD.
AS TO WHERE HIS NEXT BATTLE TOOK HIM, I CANNOT SAY.

〈AND THAT, MY FRIENDS, IS THE STORY OF HOW I GOT THIS.〉
〈THOUGHT YOU SAID THE PEOPLE IN THE VILLAGE ALL CHANGED BACK?〉
〈MOST OF THEM DID. BUT A FEW OF US WERE LEFT WITH SOUVENIRS.〉
〈HOGWASH! THAT'S THE BIGGEST LOAD OF NONSENSE I EVER HEARD.〉
〈FORGET THIS FOOL AND MIND YOUR NETS, BOYS.〉
〈CATCH FEELS LIKE A HUGE ONE TODAY.〉
〈WHAT THE HELL... 〉

AAARRGGHHH!!
AAARRGHHH!!
RRRRAAARRRGGGHHHHH!!
SQUISH
MY, MY, LOOK AT YOU... SUCH LUSTROUS SKIN...
COME HERE AND GIVE YOUR MISTRESS A HUG.
COMING IN AUGUST--
GHOST RIDERS: HEAVEN'S ON FIRE